

National Quality Standards for Recreation Site Management and Best Management Practices  
(formerly known as Meaningful Measures Standards)

National Quality Standards for developed sites have been established for the Key Measures: Health and Cleanliness, Safety and Security, Condition of Facilities, Responsiveness, Resource Setting. Critical National Standards are identified with an asterisk (\*). If not met, the resulting conditions pose a high probability of immediate or permanent loss to people or property.

**Key Measure: HEALTH AND CLEANLINESS**

1. \*Visitors are not exposed to human waste.
2. \*Water, wastewater, and sewage treatment systems meet federal, state and local water quality regulations.
3. Garbage does not exceed the capacity of garbage containers.
4. Individual units and common areas are free of litter including domestic animal waste.
5. Facilities are free of graffiti.
6. Restrooms and garbage locations are free of objectionable odor.
7. Constructed features are clean.

**Key Measure: RESOURCE SETTING**

8. \*Effects from recreation use do not conflict with environmental laws (such as ESA, NHPA, Clean Water, TES, etc).
9. Recreation opportunities, site development, and site management are consistent with Recreation management system (ROS, SMS, BBM) objectives, development scale, and the Forest land management plan.
10. Landscape character at the developed recreation site is consistent with the Forest scenic integrity objectives.
11. Visitors and vehicles do not exceed site capacity.

**Key Measure: SAFETY & SECURITY**

12. \*High-risk conditions do not exist in developed recreation sites.
13. \*Utility inspections meet federal, state, and local requirements.
14. Laws, regulations and special orders are enforced.

15. Visitors are provided a sense of security

**Key Measure: RESPONSIVENESS**

16. \*When signed as accessible, constructed features meet current accessibility guidelines.

17. Visitors feel welcome.

18. Information boards are posted in a user-friendly and professional manner.

19. Visitors are provided opportunities to communicate satisfactions (needs, expectations).

20. Visitor information facilities are staffed appropriately during seasons of use and current information is available.

21. Recreation site information is accurate and available from a variety of sources and outlets.

**Key Measure: CONDITION OF FACILITIES**

22. Constructed features are serviceable and in good repair throughout the designed service life.

23. Constructed features in disrepair due to lack of scheduled maintenance, or in non-compliance with safety codes (e.g. life safety, OSHA, environmental, etc.) or other regulatory requirements (ABA/ADA, etc.), or beyond the designed service life, are repaired, rehabilitated, replaced, or decommissioned.

24. New, altered, or expanded constructed features meet FS design standards and are consistent with an approved site development plan, including an accessibility transition plan.

**Public Service Maintenance Standards**

The following standards should be met in sites offering services to the public. These standards are necessary to ensure a pleasant recreation experience for the visitor.

25. Toilets, showers, and dressing areas

Toilet bowls, risers, seats, seat covers, and urinals free of deposits on surfaces

Building interiors free of dirt, trash, graffiti, insects (dead and alive), and spider webs

Floors free of standing water

Chromeware clean and bright

Toilet paper, towels, and seat covers (where provided), stocked to last until next day and/or cleaning

Unpleasant odors (both sewage and chemical) minimized

26. Toilets and other buildings (exterior)

Walkways and trails clean and clear of obstructions for public safety and accommodating people with disabilities

Floor mats clean

Exterior walls free of graffiti

Roof generally free of leaves and branches

Eaves free of wasp nests, bird nests, and spider webs

27. Toilet vaults

Vaults not more than three-fourths full

During pumping, the vaults should be cleaned as thoroughly as possible to help prevent the production of odors.

28. Tables and benches

Tops and seats free of dirt, grease, and large carvings

Under portion free of spider webs, etc.

Tops, seats, and legs secure and functional

29. Fireplaces, char-grills, fire rings, and stoves

No more than half-full of ashes

All ashes and partially burned wood confined to fireplace or grill

Grill surface free of grease and food particles at time of ash removal

Pedestals and bases straight and secure, and components functional

Leftover firewood stacked beside unit.

30. Garbage cans and depositories

Plastic liner half-full or less

Cans clean on the outside; all litter and debris picked up around cans or container

31. Hand-pumps, fountains, and hydrants

All units free of grease or residue

All units secure and drip-free

Catch basins (drains) free of food particles, soaps, grease, debris, standing water, and functioning properly